VOLUME 6. Part 7
pp. 193-224, 1 pl.

22*nd May* 1952

THE BULLETIN OF ZOOLOGICAL NOMENCLATURE

The Official Organ of

THE INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION ON ZOOLOGICAL NOMENCLATURE

Edited by

FRANCIS HEMMING, C.M.G., C.B.E.
Secretary to the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature

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LONDON :

Printed by Order of the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature

and

Sold on behalf of the International Commission by the International Trust for Zoological Nomenclature at the Publications Office of the Trust 41, Queen's Gate, London, S.W.7.

1952

Price Fifteen Shillings

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BULLETIN OF ZOOLOGICAL NOMENCLATURE

Volume 6, Part 7 (pp. 193-224, 1 pl.) 22nd May 1952

JAMES LEE PETERS

Born, 13th August 1889; died, 19th April 1952

Member of the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature, 1933-52.

Assistant Secretary, 1939-45.

Vice-President, 1945-1948.

President, 1948-1952.

It is with the greatest regret that the death is announced of Dr. James L. Peters, President of the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature.

An Obituary Notice will be published as soon as possible.

NOTICES PRESCRIBED BY THE INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF ZOOLOGY

The following notices are given in pursuance of decisions taken, on the recommendation of the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature (see 1950, *Bull. zool. Nomencl.* **4**: 51-56, 57-59), by the Thirteenth International Congress of Zoology, Paris, July 1948 (see 1950, *Bull. zool. Nomencl.* **5**: 5-13, 131).

(a) Date of commencement by the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature of voting on applications published in the "Bulletin of Zoological Nomenclature"

NOTICE is hereby given that normally the International Commission will start to vote upon applications published in the *Bulletin of Zoological Nomenclature* on the expiry of a period of six calendar months from the date of publication in the *Bulletin* of the applications in question. Any specialist who may desire to comment upon any of the applications published in the present Part (vol. 6, Part 7) of the *Bulletin* is accordingly invited to do so in writing to the Secretary to the Commission, as quickly as possible and in any case, in sufficient time to enable the communication in question to reach the Secretariat of the Commission before the expiry of the six-month period referred to above.

Notices prescribed by the International Congress of Zoology (*continued*

(b) Notice of the possible use by the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature of its plenary powers in certain cases

NOTICE is hereby given that the possible use of the plenary powers is involved in applications published in the present Part of the *Bulletin of Zoological Nomenclature* (Vol. 6, Part 7) in relation to the following names :—

(1) *Acanthephyra* A. Milne Edwards, 1881 (Class Crustacea, Order Decapoda) (action designed to validate existing practice) (Z.N.(S.)617).

(2) *knorri* Voltz, 1828 (as published in the combination *Ostrea knorrii*) (Class Pelecypoda), proposed validation of (Z.N.(S.)626).

(3) *Antalis* Herrmannsen, 1846 (Class Scaphopoda) (action designed to validate existing practice) (Z.N.(S.)665).

2. Comments received in sufficient time will be published in the *Bulletin of Zoological Nomenclature :* other comments, provided that they are received within the prescribed period of six calendar months from the date of publication of the present Part will be laid before the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature at the time of commencement of voting on the application concerned.

3. In accordance with the arrangement agreed upon at the Session held by the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature in Paris in 1948 (see 1950, *Bull. zool. Nomencl.* **4** : 56), corresponding Notices have been sent to the serial publications " Nature " and " Science."

FRANCIS HEMMING

Secretary to the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature

28, Park Village East, Regent's Park, LONDON, N.W.1, England.

22nd May 1952.

PROPOSED USE OF THE PLENARY POWERS TO VALIDATE THE GENERIC NAME " ACANTHEPHYRA " A. MILNE EDWARDS, 1881 (CLASS CRUSTACEA, ORDER DECAPODA)

By L. B. HOLTHUIS

(*Rijksmuseum van Natuurlijke Historie, Leiden, The Netherlands*)

(Commission's reference Z.N.(S.)617)

The present application relates to a generic name *Acanthephyra* A. Milne Edwards, 1881 (Class Crustacea, Order Decapoda), which is in general use, but which is not the oldest available name for the genus concerned. The ruthless application of the *Règles* in the present case would give rise to much quite unnecessary confusion, and I accordingly ask the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature to prevent this confusion by using their plenary powers in such a way as to permit the continued use of the above generic name.

The following are the original references to the generic names dealt with in the present application :—

Acanthephyra A. Milne Edwards, 1881, *Ann. Sci. nat.* (*Paris*) (*Zool.*) (6) **11** (4) : 12 (type species, by original designation : *Acanthephyra armata* A. Milne Edwards, 1881, *Ann. Sci. nat.* (*Paris*) (*Zool.*) (6) **11**(4) : 12).

Miersia Kingsley, 1879, *Proc. Acad. nat. Sci. Philad.* **1879** : 416 (substitute name for *Ephyra* P. Roux, 1831 (*Mém. Class. Crust. Salic.* : 24) an invalid junior homonym of *Ephyra* Péron & Lesueur, 1810, *Ann. Mus. Hist. nat., Paris* **14**(83) : 354) (type species, by original designation by Kingsley, 1879 (*Proc. Acad. nat. Sci. Philad.* **1879** : 416) : *Alpheus pelagicus* Risso, 1816, *Hist. nat. Crust. Nice :* 91).

The name *Acanthephyra* at present is in universal use for a large genus of deep-sea shrimps. This genus consists of about 28 species and is distributed throughout the Atlantic, Indian and Pacific Oceans. Several of the species are common and all the larger deep-sea expeditions brought home considerable quantities of specimens belonging to this genus. In the zoological reports of practically all the deep-sea expeditions (e.g., Albatross, Ara, Atlantide, Atlantis, B.A.N.Z. Antarctic, Bermuda Oceanographic, Caudan, Challenger, Discovery, German South Polar, Helga, Ingolf, Investigator, John Murray, Michel Sars, Pawnee, Pickle, Pieter Faure, Plankton, Pola, Princesse Alice, Siboga, Thor, Valdivia, Washington) these shrimps have been described under the generic name *Acanthephyra*. In his revision of the family in which this genus belongs, Chace (1936, *J. Wash. Acad. Sci.* **26** : 24–31) also used that generic name.

Now *Alpheus pelagicus* Risso, 1816, the type species of the genus *Miersia* Kingsley, 1879, proves to belong to the genus *Acanthephyra* (see Holthuis, 1947, *Zool. Meded.*, **27** : 315). Thus *Miersia* Kingsley, 1879, is a subjective synonym of *Acanthephyra* A. Milne Edwards, 1881. The latter name, being the more recent of the two, according to the Law of Priority, has to be replaced by the former.

The name *Miersia* was proposed by Kingsley to replace the pre-occupied

generic name *Ephyra* P. Roux, 1831. Kingsley placed three species in this genus :—

(1) *Alpheus pelagicus* Risso, 1816, which was indicated by Kingsley as the type species of *Miersia*,

(2) *Pandalus punctulatus* Risso, 1826 (*Hist. nat. Europ. mérid.* **5** : 80, fig. 7), a *species incerta*, and

(3) *Ephyra compressa* De Haan, 1844 (*Fauna japon.*, Crust. (5) : pl. 46 fig. 7), the type species of the genus *Paratya* Miers, 1882 (family ATYIDAE).

As far as I know only three authors besides Kingsley have used the name *Miersia* for *Acanthephyra*. First, S. I. Smith in *Bull. Mus. com. zool.* **10** : 66–73. Two years later Smith (1884, *Rep. U.S. Fish Comm.* **10** : 372) abandoned *Miersia* in favour of *Acanthephyra*. In his 1884 paper Smith stated that he could not find any differences between the two genera, " but as Milne-Edwards probably had access to typical species of *Miersia*, *Acanthephyra* is most likely a distinct genus ". Carus (1885, *Prod.r Faun. Medit.* **1** : 481) in his rather uncritical compilation of the Mediterranean fauna mentions *Miersia* with two species *M. pelagica* and *M. punctulata*. Bate (1888, *Rep. Voy. Challenger, Zool.* **24** : 732, 733) in his large report on the Challenger Macrura, rejected the name *Miersia* on account of the fact that Kingsley, who had placed the genus in the family ATYIDAE, in the diagnosis of this family mentioned characters not present in *Acanthephyra*. Fowler (1912, *Ann. Rep. New Jersey State Mus.* **1911** : 548, 549) in his compilation of the New Jersey Crustacea correctly considered *Miersia* and *Acanthephyra* to be identical and accordingly adopted the former name as being the older.

The name *Miersia* furthermore has been used by some authors for species of the family ATYIDAE, obviously because Kingsley placed the Atyid shrimp *Paratya compressa* (De Haan) in this genus. Ortmann (1894, *Proc. Acad. nat. Sci. Philad.* **1894** : 400), who in two previous publications had used the name *Miersia* for species of the genus *Paratya*, identified *Miersia* Kingsley, 1879, with *Paratya* Miers, 1882 and *Xiphocaris* Von Martens, 1872, using the latter name for the genus. Ortmann excluded *Alpheus pelagicus* from *Miersia*, placing it in *Acanthephyra*. Holmes (1895, *Proc. Calif. Acad. Sci.* (2) **4** : 577) described a new Atyid under the name *Miersia pacifica*. In 1900 the same author (Holmes, 1900, *Occ. Pap. Calif. Acad. Sci.* **7** : 211) erected a new genus (*Syncaris*) for his species and at the same time remarked that the name *Miersia* could not be used for Atyid shrimps, since its type species was *Alpheus pelagicus*. Finally, Bouvier (1925, *Encycl. entomol.* (A) **4** : 55) cited *Miersia* Kingsley as a synonym of *Paratya* Miers.

We thus see that the generic name *Acanthephyra* is in general use for a genus of deep-sea shrimps ; at least 60 authors have used that name and it may be found in practically all reports dealing with the Decapoda Macrura of deep-sea expeditions. On the other hand the name *Miersia*, which is nomenclatorially the correct name for that genus, has been used for it by only four authors, one of whom later abandoned it in favour of *Acanthephyra*, while the publications of the other three authors have been of relatively very little importance for the study of this group. Moreover the name *Miersia* has been used by a number of authors for shrimps belonging to the family ATYIDAE. It is clear therefore that the change of the name *Acanthephyra* to *Miersia* is highly undesirable as it would involve the change of many well-known specific names and thus cause quite unnecessary confusion in carcinological literature. The

concrete proposals which I accordingly submit for consideration are that the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature should :—

(1) use its plenary powers :—

(*a*) to suppress the generic name *Miersia* Kingsley, 1879, for the purposes of the Law of Priority, but not for those of the Law of Homonymy, and

(*b*) to validate the generic name *Acanthephyra* A. Milne Edwards, 1881 ;

(2) place on the *Official List of Generic Names in Zoology* the generic name *Acanthephyra* A. Milne Edwards, 1881 (gender of generic name : feminine) (type species, by original designation : *Acanthephyra armata* A. Milne Edwards, 1881) as validated in (1)(*b*) above ;

(3) place the generic names *Miersia* Kingsley, 1879, as suppressed under (1)(*a*) above, and *Ephyra* Roux, 1831 (junior homonym of *Ephyra* Péron & Lesueur, 1810) on the *Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Generic Names in Zoology* ;

(4) place on the *Official List of Specific Trivial Names in Zoology* the trivial name *armata* A. Milne Edwards, 1881 (as published in the binominal combination *Acanthephyra armata*) (trivial name of type species of *Acanthephyra* A. Milne Edwards, 1881).

SUPPORT FOR MR. W. D. HINCKS' PROPOSAL RELATING TO THE NAME " APHIDIUS " NEES, 1818 (CLASS INSECTA, ORDER HYMENOPTERA)

By C. F. W. MUESEBECK

(*U.S. Department of Agriculture, Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine, Division of Insect Identification, Washington, D.C., U.S.A.*)

(Commission's reference Z.N.(S.)149)

(Letter dated 13th November 1951)

I am writing concerning the Commission's reference Z.N.(S.)149 (1951, *Bull. zool. Nomencl.* **2**, 18-19).

As a worker in the Braconidae with interests also in the applied field I wish to support thoroughly the proposal for conserving *Aphidius* Nees, 1818, for the group of aphid parasites to which this name has consistently been applied for well over a century. It would be unfortunate, especially in view of the large volume of literature that deals with this group of insects, to be compelled to substitute *Incubus* Schrank for *Aphidius* at this late date.

PROPOSED CORRECTION OF THE ENTRY IN THE "OFFICIAL LIST OF GENERIC NAMES IN ZOOLOGY" RELATING TO THE NAME THERE RECORDED AS "SEGESTRIA" WALCKENAER, 1805 (CLASS ARACHNIDA, ORDER ARANEIDA) (PROPOSED CORRECTION OF AN ERROR IN "OPINION" 104)

By FRANCIS HEMMING, C.M.G., C.B.E.

(*Secretary to the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature*)

(Commission's reference Z.N.(S.)568)

The object of the present application is to ask the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature to correct an error in the entry on the *Official List of Generic Names in Zoology* relating to the name *Segestria* there attributed to Walckenaer, 1805 (Class Arachnida, Order Araneida), which was detected in the process of preparing the *Official List* for publication in book-form.

2. The above generic name was placed on the *Official List* in *Opinion* 104 (1928, *Smithson, misc. Coll.* **73** (No 5) : 25, 27). Its type species was there stated to be "*florentina*" by subsequent designation.

3. In the process of routine checking, I noted that Neave (1940, *Nomencl. zool.* **4** : 164) recorded two nominal genera as having been established with the name *Segestria*. These were :—

(1) *Segestria* Latreille, 1804, *Nouv. Dict. Hist. nat.* **24** (Tabl. méth.) : 134.

(2) *Segestria* Walckenaer, 1805, *Tab. Aran.* : 148.

4. It was immediately apparent from the above discovery that, unless the name *Segestria* Latreille, 1804, had been published without an "indication" and was therefore a *nomen nudum*, the name *Segestria* Walckenaer, 1805, which had been placed on the *Official List* under *Opinion* 104, was an invalid junior homonym. At this point, I applied for assistance to Mr. R. J. Whittick, at that time in charge of the Arachnida collection in the British Museum (Natural History), to whom I am indebted for the information on which the proposals now submitted are based.

5. The nominal genus *Segestria* Latreille, 1804, was established with the following diagnosis : "Yeux ecartes sur une ligne transversale, remontant deux bouts. (Segestrie, *Segestria*). Les tubiformes de Walckenaer." This is therefore a nominal genus established without any nominal species clearly referred thereto. As such, its type species could, until 1948, have been determined only under the provisions of the Commission's *Opinion* 46. It will be recalled, however, that, on the recommendation of the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature, the Thirteenth International Congress of Zoology incorporated into the *Règles* revised and simplified provisions for determining the type species of nominal genera established in the foregoing manner, *Opinion* 46 (which had always been most unsatisfactory) being at the same time cancelled (1950, *Bull. zool. Nomencl.* **4** : 159-160, 166, 346). Under the revised provisions referred to above, the first nominal species to be referred

to the genus *Segestria* by a subsequent author becomes the type species of that genus, if only one such species is so referred, while if two or more nominal species are thus referred to the nominal genus *Segestria*, those species alone are to be treated as having been originally included species and therefore as the only species eligible for selection as the type species of the genus by a subsequent author.

6. Walckenaer in 1805 was the first author after Latreille, 1804, to deal with the genus *Segestria*, for which he gave a brief description under the heading " Les Tubicoles (Tubulariae) " and cited two species as follows :—

(1) Seg. perfida (*Seg. perfida*). Pl. 5, fig. 51 et 52. Walck., Faun. Paris, t. 2, p. 223, no. 73.—Rossi, Fauna Etrusca, pl. 19, fig. 3, *ar. florentina.*

(2) Seg. senoculée (*Seg. senoculata*). Fab., Linn., Walck., DeGeer, t. 7, p. 258, no. 18, pl. 15, fig. 5, 6, 7, 8. Lister, *de Araneis*, p. 74, t. 24 fig. 24.

7. Under a decision taken by the Thirteenth International Congress of Zoology in 1948 a nominal species cited in a specific synonymy at the time when a new nominal genus is established (through the publication of a new generic name) is to be treated as having been an originally included species and is therefore eligible for selection as the type species of the genus concerned. Accordingly the nominal species referred to by Walckenaer as " *ar. florentina* " i.e. *Aranea florentina* Rossi, 1790 (*Fauna etrusc.* **2** : 133) is eligible for selection as the type species of *Segestria* Latreille, 1804, through having been cited (in a specific synonymy) by Walckenaer (1805), the first author subsequent to Latreille (1804) to refer to the generic name *Segestria*. It should be noted also that in this particular case the two nominal species concerned (*Aranea florentina* Rossi, 1790, and *Aranea perfida* Walckenaer, 1802 (*Faune paris*, **2** : 223) were not only subjectively identified with one another by Walckenaer in 1805 (see paragraph 6 above) but are, in fact, objectively identical with one another, for, when in 1802 Walckenaer first published the name *Aranea perfida*, he expressly cited the name *Aranea florentina* Rossi as a synonym. The name so published by Walckenaer was thus no more than a *nom. nov.* for that previously published by Rossi, of which it is therefore an objective junior (and therefore invalid) synonym.

8. The first author to select a type species for the genus *Segestria* was Latreille himself who in 1810 (*Consid. gén. Anim. Crust. Arach. Ins.* : 121, 424) selected " *Aranea florentina* Ross." That selection is perfectly valid, for the reasons explained in paragraph 7 above.

9. In the light of the foregoing review of the present case, we see that the name *Segestria* Walckenaer, 1805, placed on the *Official List* under *Opinion* 104, is an invalid homonym of the older name consisting of the same word (*Segestria*) i.e. *Segestria* Latreille, 1804, which applies to a nominal genus having as its type species the same species (*Aranea florentina* Rossi, 1790) as that cited by the International Commission as the type species of the later nominal genus *Segestria* Walckenaer, 1805. Accordingly, the error committed in *Opinion* 104 can readily be remedied by substituting on the *Official List* the valid name *Segestria* Latreille, 1804, for the invalid name *Segestria* Walckenaer, 1805.

This, therefore, is what is now proposed should be done. It is further proposed that the present opportunity should be taken to make such entries on the *Official List of Specific Trivial Names in Zoology* and on the two *Official Indexes* of rejected and invalid names as are required in order to comply with the decisions taken by the International Congress of Zoology, when establishing that *Official List* and those *Official Indexes.*

10. The specific action which it is now recommended that the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature should take to remedy the error disclosed in *Opinion* 104 is that it should :—

(1) delete from the *Official List of Generic Names in Zoology* the entry relating to the name *Segestria* Walckenaer, 1805 erroneously made under *Opinion* 104 (which should be deemed to have been corrected accordingly) and in its place to insert the following corrected entry :—

Segestria Latreille, 1804 (type species, by subsequent selection by Latreille (1810) : *Aranea florentina* Rossi, 1790) ;

(2) place the generic name *Segestria* Walckenaer, 1805 (a junior homonym of *Segestria* Latreille, 1804) on the *Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Generic Names in Zoology* ;

(3) place the trivial name *florentina* Rossi, 1790 (as published in the binominal combination *Aranea florentina*) (trivial name of type species of *Segestria* Latreille, 1804) on the *Official List of Specific Trivial Names in Zoology* ;

(4) place the trivial name *perfida* Walckenaer, 1802 (as published in the binominal combination *Aranea perfida*) (trivial name of an objective junior synonym of *Aranea florentina* Rossi, 1790) on the *Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Specific Trivial Names in Zoology.*

PROPOSED USE OF THE PLENARY POWERS TO VALIDATE THE TRIVIAL NAME " KNORRI " VOLTZ, 1828 (AS PUBLISHED IN THE COMBINATION " OSTREA KNORRII " (CLASS PELECYPODA)

By P. C. SYLVESTER-BRADLEY, B.Sc.

(*University of Sheffield, Department of Geology, Sheffield, England*)

(Commission's reference Z.N.(S.)626)

1. The small ribbed oyster, abundant in the Bathonian of Switzerland, Germany, France and England, and known as *Ostrea knorri*, has been extensively quoted under that name in the palaeontological and stratigraphical literature of all four countries for 120 years, as also in geological textbooks (for examples, see Arkell, 1934 : 18-23).

2. In Lorraine, in Switzerland and in Germany, the oyster has been used as a stratigraphical index, such terms as " couches à *knorri* " or " Knorrischichten " occurring frequently in stratigraphical literature.

3. In 1887 de Grossouvre (:516) pointed out that the name *Ostrea knorri* Voltz, 1828, was a junior homonym of *O. knorri* Defrance, 1821. He proposed the new name *O. lotharingica* for " *Ostrea knorri* Voltz *in* Zieten." De Grossouvre's name has been adopted very seldom since its publication.

4. Lissajous (1923 : 143) agreed that *O. knorri* Voltz was invalid, but considered the name *O. gibriaci* Martin, 1863, to be synonymous, and therefore used it in preference to *O. lotharingica* de Grossouvre, 1887. Most previous and subsequent authors believed *O. gibriaci* to be distinct from *O. knorri*. The name has therefore not been adopted as a substitute for *O. knorri*.

5. Rollier (1911 : 272) made *O. knorri* Voltz the type of a new subgenus, *Catinula*.

6. The oyster *O. knorri* Defrance, 1821, has long been recognised as a synonym of *O. gryphoides* Schlotheim, 1813. Consequently the name is never used, and no nomenclatural confusion could arise if it were to be suppressed.

7. Arkell (1934 : 17) stated the nomenclatural position as here set out, and continued to use the name *O. knorri* Voltz.

8. Cox and Arkell (1948 : 20), in a nomenclatural revision of Bathonian mollusca, were bound by the Rules to adopt the name *O. lotharingica* for this oyster, but Dr. Arkell supports the present application to validate *O. knorri* Voltz.

9. In view of the fact that this oyster has such stratigraphical importance over so wide an area, I would urge that the name by which it is universally known stands in special need of protection. Hence I am proposing that the Commission use their plenary powers to suppress the name *O. knorri* Defrance, thus validating *O. knorri* Voltz.

10. The name *O. lotharingica* de Grossouvre was proposed, not as a substitute for " *O. knorri* Voltz ", but for " *O. knorri* Voltz in Zieten ". The oysters

described by Zieten (1832 : 60, pl. xlv) under this name, from Geisingen in Germany, while close to the types of *O. knorri* from Muttenz in Switzerland, possess certain morphological differences, and may come from a different horizon. Should the name *O. knorri* Voltz be validated, therefore, it would be possible to argue that the name *O. lotharingica* applied to an allied but different species, when both names would stand. Hence it is not proposed that the name *O. lotharingica* be placed on the *Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Specific Trivial Names in Zoology.*

11. The recommendations that I now submit are, therefore, that the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature should :—

(1) use the plenary powers to suppress the trivial name *knorri* Defrance, 1821 (as published in the binominal combination *Ostrea knorri*) ;

(2) place the foregoing trivial name on the *Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Specific Trivial Names in Zoology :* and

(3) place the trivial name *knorri* Voltz ,1828 (as published in the binominal combination *Ostrea knorrii*) on the *Official List of Specific Trivial Names in Zoology.*

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PROPOSED USE OF THE PLENARY POWERS TO PRESERVE THE USE OF THE NAME " ANTALIS " HERRMANNSEN, 1846 (CLASS SCAPHOPODA) IN ITS ACCUSTOMED SENSE

By N. H. LUDBROOK, M.A., Ph.D. (*Canberra, Australia*) and W. K. EMERSON, M.S.

(*Museum of Paleontology, University of California, Berkeley, California, U.S.A.*)

(Commission's reference Z.N.(S.)665)

The purpose of the present application is to ask the International Commission to use its plenary powers in such a way as to preserve the name *Antalis* Herrmannsen, 1846 (*Indicis Gen. Malacoz. Primordia* **1** : 63) (Class Scaphopoda) for use in its accustomed sense, with *Dentalium entalis* Linnaeus, 1758 (*Syst. Nat.* (ed. 10) **1** : 785) as type species. The problem raised in the present application requires to be decided in connection with the preparation of the forthcoming *Treatise on Invertebrate Paleontology ;* it is particularly hoped therefore that the International Commission will be able to give this application all practicable priority.

2. The name *Antalis* Herrmannsen, 1846, is now universally employed for the subgenus of *Dentalium* Linnaeus, 1758, typified by the species *Dentalium entalis* Linnaeus. Herrmannsen in 1846, who cited no nominal species for *Antalis*, defined this genus as follows : " Tubulorum genus a Dentaliis notis levissimis distinctum." This may be regarded as sufficient to constitute an " indication " for the purpose of Article 25 of the *Règles*.

3. The name *Antalis* was next published with a description by H. & A. Adams in 1853 (*Gen. rec. Moll.* **1** : 45), by whom " *A. semistriolata* Goulding " and " *A. entalis* Linnaeus " were cited and figured as examples of the genus, n which sixteen species were listed.

4. In 1897 Pilsbry & Sharp (Tryon's *Man. Conch.* **17** : 37) specified *Dentalium entalis* Linnaeus, 1758, as the type species of *Antalis*, which they treated as a subgenus of *Dentalium* Linnaeus, 1758. Ever since that date, the name *Antalis* has been consistently employed in this sense.

5. In 1778, however, da Costa (*Hist. nat. Test. Brit.* : 24) used the vernacular name " Dentale " validly as a generic name (*Dentale*), using it in his description of the British scaphopod *Dentale vulgare* or " Dentale Commun." This name was introduced by da Costa to replace the name *Dentalium entalis* Linnaeus, which was placed in synonymy.

6. The species *vulgare* da Costa and *entalis* Linnaeus are now considered to be specifically distinct, but are considered to belong to the same subgenus. Thus, *Antalis* Herrmannsen, 1846 (type species : *Dentalium entalis* Linnaeus, 1758) becomes a subjective junior synonym of *Dentale* da Costa, 1778 (type species : *Dentale vulgare* da Costa).

7. Except for the single occasion in 1778, when it was introduced by da Costa, and one recent occasion, when it was used by one of us (Emerson, 1951, *Nautilus* **65** (1) : 17-20), the name *Dentale* has never been employed in a valid generic or subgeneric sense. It has, however, been widely employed in French literature as the vernacular equivalent of *Dentalium*.

8. If the name *Dentale* da Costa were now to be reintroduced to replace the name *Antalis* Herrmannsen, the nominal genus *Dentalium* Linnaeus, 1758 (*sensu lato*) would have two subgenera with virtually identical names, namely *Dentale* da Costa (type species : *Dentale vulgare* da Costa) and the nominotypical subgenus *Dentalium* Linnaeus (type species : *Dentalium elephantinum* Linnaeus).

9. It is felt that needless confusion would arise from the concurrent use of the word " Dentale " as the vernacular equivalent of *Dentalium* (*sensu lato*) and as the valid name for a subgenus of *Dentalium* distinct from *Dentalium* (*sensu stricto*).

10. Accordingly, the proposal is hereby submitted that the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature should :—

(1) use its plenary powers to suppress the generic name *Dentale* da Costa, 1778, for the purposes of the Law of Priority but not for those of the Law of Homonymy ;

(2) place the generic name *Antalis* Herrmannsen, 1846 (gender of generic name : feminine) (type species, by selection by Pilsbry & Sharp (1897) : *Dentalium entalis* Linnaeus, 1758) on the *Official List of Generic Names in Zoology* ;

(3) place the trivial name *entalis* Linnaeus, 1758 (as published in the binominal combination *Dentalium entalis*) (trivial name of type species of *Antalis* Herrmannsen, 1846) on the *Official List of Specific Trivial Names in Zoology* ;

(4) place the generic name *Dentale* da Costa, 1778, as proposed, in (1) above, to be suppressed under the plenary powers, on the *Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Generic Names in Zoology.*

OBSERVATIONS SUR LA QUESTION DE L'ESPÈCE TYPE DU GENRE "GRYPHAEA" LAMARCK, 1801

par GILBERT RANSON, Docteur ès-Sciences

(*Sous-Directeur du Laboratoire de Malacologie du Muséum de Paris*)

Plate 2

(Commission's reference Z.N.(S.)365)

(Enclosure to letter dated 28th January 1952)

Dans une Note récente, parue dans ce *Bulletin* (Sept. 1951, Vol. **2** (Pt. 11)), 324) notre Collègue et Ami L. R. Cox a enseveli dans un très long exposé, les faits essentiels qui font que logiquement et raisonnablement *Gryphaea angulata* Lamarck est l'espèce type du genre *Gryphaea* Lamarck.

En réponse â cet article, je soumets les faits suivants â la Commission internationale de Nomenclature zoologique.

1°—Pour la première fois, en 1823, Children ("Lamarck's Genera of Shells," Art. V, *Quart. J. Sci. Lit. and Arts.*, **15**) a désigné nommément le type du genre *Gryphaea* Lamarck, 1801. C'est *Gryphaea angulata* Lamarck, 1819.

Certes, cet auteur a choisi les types de Lamarck dans *l'Histoire Naturelle* de 1819 et non dans le *Système* de 1801. Cependant Children connaissait bien le *Système* de 1801. Cela prouve que dès cette époque, on avait bien la notion de « type », mais on ne concevait pas comme possible de choisir les types dans le *Système* de 1801, parce que ce dernier ne donne que des exemples, sans aucun élément sérieux de définition.

2°—Supposons les Zoologistes et Paléontologistes du Monde réunis devant les faits suivants :

a) *Système* de 1801 : *Gryphaea angulata* donné comme premier exemple,

b) *Histoire Naturelle* de 1819 : *Gryphaea angulata* donné comme premier exemple,

c) L'échantillon type qui est au Muséum de Paris, ayant servi à Lamarck pour définir son genre et son espèce (échantillon figuré ici, pl. 2, fig. 1).

Je suis persuadé qu'il n'y a pas un Collègue qui, honnêtement, pourrait nier que la définition de Lamarck, du genre et de l'espèce, ne se rapporte pas à cet échantillon "actuel."

Personne ne pourrait nier que Lamarck, citant chaque fois cette espèce la première, n'a pas créé son genre pour celle-ci dont il venait de voir l'échantillon que nous possèdons à Paris. (L'échantillon de la Collection Lamarck de Genève, figuré par Delessert en 1841 ne semble pas etre un syntype d'après M. Mermod qui reconnaît que l'exemplaire de Paris est l'holotype. Je figure néanmoins cet exemplaire de Genève, pl. 2, fig. 2).

Monsieur Cox est le premier à avoir essayé de nier ce fait, contre toute évidence. Ce n'est pas bien. Si Monsieur Cox s'était donné la peine de voir le « type », il n'aurait pas essayé de montrer que la description de Lamarck ne correspond pas à l'espèce actuelle.

Monsieur Cox dit que l'expression de Lamarck « animal inconnu » laisse à penser qu'il n'y avait pas d'espèce européenne vivante. Tout au contraire, si Lamarck avait eu en vue un fossile, il n'avait pas à préciser qu'on ne connaissait pas l'animal, ce qui est évident. Cette expression montre bien qu'il s'agit d'un animal actuel dont on n'a que la coquille.

3°—Il est plus loyal de dire qu'on ne doit pas retenir l'argument d «intention de l'auteur» parce que celle-ci n'est pas toujours facile à établir et que c'est l'argument « formel», uniquement, qui doit fixer la solution à adopter.

En effet le seul argument apparemment valable pour dire que *G. angulata* n'est pas le type du genre *Gryphaea*, est que cette espèce, dans le *Système* de 1801 est un *nomen nudum* et que, par suite, il faut choisir une espèce citée après celle-ci.

Si Lamarck l'avait accompagnée de deux lignes seulement de description il n'y aurait pas de discussion et tout le monde serait d'accord pour dire que *G. angulata* est le type du genre *Gryphaea*. Mais il est bien évident que dans le *Système* de 1801, qui n'est qu'un Genera, où Lamarck ne donne que des exemples, *il ne pouvait donner pour* G. angulata (*nouvelle espèce basée sur un nouveau et récent matériel*), *ni références à des documents inexistants, ni figures, ni description puisque ce n'était pas le lieu d'en donner.*

Il n'y a pas de doute possible que dans le *Système* de 1801, toutes les espèces nouvelles, basées sur du matériel nouveau, récent, seraient sans références ni descriptions, donc chacune serait un *nomen nudum.*

C'est là un argument fondamental pour démontrer que le *Système* de 1801 n'a pas les qualités requises pour y sélectionner les types. Des esprits subtils prétendent que Lamarck n'y indique pas les types pour les genres anciens (créés avant lui) mais que pour les genres nouveaux (créés par lui) les exemples qu'il donne ont les qualités requises pour y choisir les types. Un esprit clair et logique ne peut admettre que ce qui est vrai pour une partie du *Système* de 1801, soit faux pour l'autre partie !

4°—Anton, en 1839, a choisi *G. arcuata* comme espèce-type. Or M. Cox lui-même l'a bien montré, on ne sait absolument pas ce que Lamarck, en 1801, a voulu désigner sous ce vocable. En effet une référence a été changée par la suite et les deux autres ne sont pas très nettes. On ne connaît pas d'échantillon-type. Pourquoi persister dans cette erreur flagrante.

5°—Je voudrais montrer maintenant qu'à chaque instant on se heurte à des difficultés du même ordre lorsqu'on veut choisir les types dans le *Système* de 1801, alors que tout est clair et simple avec *l'Histoire naturelle* de 1819.

Il y a peu de temps, en discutant avec un Collègue du genre *Fissurella*, notre attention s'est portée, par hasard, sur le genre *Emarginula*. Dans le *Système* de 1801 nous voyons comme premier exemple, *Emarginula conica*, n. *Patella fissura* L. Tout de suite il vient à l'esprit que Lamarck a eu tort de ne pas nommer cette espèce, *Emarginula fissura* puisqu'il fondait son genre sur l'espèce linnéenne *Patella fissura* L. Il a bien compris son erreur par la suite puisque dans son *Histoire naturelle* de 1819 nous ne trouvons plus le nom de « *conica* » ; nous notons comme première espèce du genre *Emarginula* (t. VI, 2eme part. p. 7)=*Emarginula fissura.*

Malgré cela, M. Winckworth (1935, *J. Conch.* **19** : 219) cite *E. conica* Lamarck, comme l'espèce-type. Ph. Dautzenberg et Ph. Fischer ont, au contraire, raison en choisissant (« Les Moll. marins du Finistère . . . », *Trav. stat. biol. Roscoff*, **1925** (3) : 95) comme type : *Emarginula fissura* (Linné).

À chaque pas on se heurte à des contradictions de cet ordre. Il faut vraiment pousser le formalisme jusqu'à ses limites déraisonnables et illogiques pour déclarer qu'on peut sélectionner des types dans le *Système* de 1801.

6°—Le groupe des Gryphées actuelles est extrêmement important, bien défini par sa prodissoconque ou coquille larvaire. Il est certainement aussi important que celui des Liogryphées du Jurassique. Il est regrettable que des auteurs le connaissent si mal.

Le terme de *Gryphaea* a été employé comme sous-genre d'*Ostrea* depuis Lamarck pour désigner un groupe d'Huitres actuelles. Dès 1823 Children avait désigné *G. angulata* comme type lamarckien.

La seule conclusion logique et raisonnable de cette discussion c'est que *Gryphaea angulata* Lamarck, 1819, est bien l'espèce type du genre *Gryphaea* Lamarck, 1801, et je sollicite de la Commission qu'elle veuille bien s'y rallier. A défaut d'une décision d'ordre général sur le *Système* de 1801, en ce qui concerne la sélection des types, je demande à la Commission de bien vouloir accepter le second point de vue du paragraphe 4 du récent exposé de la question par Mr. Hemming (1951, *Bull. zool. Nomencl.* **2** : 240).

Figure 1

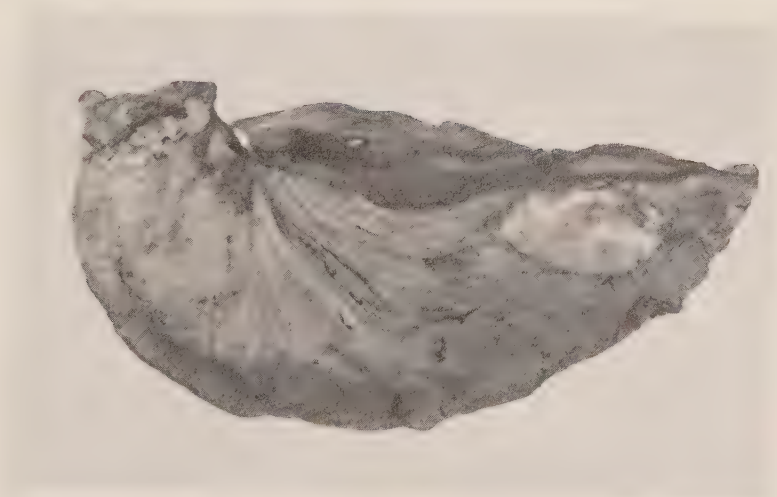

Figure 2

Explication :

Figure 1. *Gryphaea angulata* Lamarck, 1819. Holotype (Museum National d'Histoire Naturelle, Paris).

Figure 2. *Gryphaea angulata* Lamarck, 1819. Exemplaire dans la collection de Lamarck à Genève (Museum d'Histoire Naturelle). Exemplaire figuré par Delessert, 1841.

ON THE TYPE SPECIES OF THE GENUS "GEOTRUPES" LATREILLE, 1796 (CLASS INSECTA, ORDER COLEOPTERA) AND A DISCUSSION ON THE FABRICIAN (1798) USAGE OF OTHER NAMES PROPOSED BY LATREILLE IN 1796: COMMENT ON THE APPLICATION SUBMITTED BY DR. ROBERT W. L. POTTS

By HENRY TOWNES and HENRY HOWDEN

(*North Carolina State College, Raleigh, North Carolina, U.S.A.*)

(Commission's reference Z.N.(S.)338)

(Enclosure to letter dated 31st January 1952)

Potts (1948, *Pan-Pac. Ent.* **24**: 23-26) has recently published a study of the literature pertinent to the application of the name *Geotrupes* and reached certain conclusions. A review of the facts by us has led to different conclusions, which seem worthwhile to offer and discuss.

In 1796 Latreille (*Précis Caract. génér. Ins.*: 6) proposed and characterized *Geotrupes* as a new genus of SCARABAEIDAE (Coleoptera) but did not place species in the genus. In 1798 Fabricius (*Suppl. Ent. syst.*: 7) defined and used *Geotrupes* as a genus of scarabaeids and placed 63 species in it. Since Latreille included no species when he proposed *Geotrupes*, the type species should be one of the first group of species placed under the generic name by a later author (*i.e.*, possibly one of those referred to *Geotrupes* by Fabricius in 1798). (See *Opinion* 46 of the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature.) Literature is replete with cases of this kind and the case of *Geotrupes*, if similar to these, should be handled in the same way. A study of the case of *Geotrupes*, however, shows that this is probably a quite different one. It appears rather that Fabricius' use of *Geotrupes* was an independent proposal of the name and not dependent on Latreille's publication.

Fabricius' 1798 usage of *Geotrupes* was in his *Supplementum Entomoligiae systematicae*. This book is a supplement to his *Entomologia systematica*, for the purpose of adding new genera and species to the earlier work. In the *Supplementum*, new genera and ones which Fabricius wished to redefine are described at the beginning of each Order. Genera which Fabricius described as new have an additional descriptive footnote at the place where the genus is treated. All the species known to Fabricius are listed under the new genera, while only new species are placed under old or redefined genera (as in the case of *Scarabaeus*). If the genus is simply adopted from some other author or is redefined, the footnote description is not present. Although Fabricius did not give references to previous uses of a generic name and did not state when he was proposing a new genus, the footnote description in small type is used so regularly in connection with the new genera that its presence may be taken as a sign that Fabricius intended a genus as a new one. We have checked through the *Supplementum* for consistency in this practice and find only the following exceptions: 1, The new genera *Scyllarus*, *Galleria*, *Phycis*, and *Crambus* lack the footnote. 2, A few previously proposed genera of Crustacea have the footnote. 3, Five generic names used in Latreille's *Précis* are used again by Fabricius but with the footnote description accompanying the proposal of a new name. This third set of cases is of particular interest because *Geotrupes* is one of the names involved. In his *Précis*, Latreille proposed scores of new generic names, only seven of which appear in Fabricius' *Supplementum*. These are *Geotrupes*, *Sicus*, *Thereva*, *Mulio*, *Psochus*, *Orussus*, and *Ypsilopha*. The names *Orussus* and *Ypsilopha* are emended to *Oryssus* and *Ypsilophus* respectively and are treated as previously proposed names (*i.e.*, without the footnote description). The name *Psochus* is emended to *Psocus* and treated as a new name

(*i.e.*, with the footnote description). In the cases of *Geotrupes*, *Sicus*, *Thereva*, and *Mulio*, though the names had been published by Latreille in 1796, Fabricius used them in 1798 with his footnote description that indicated he was describing them as new genera. In all four cases Fabricius' descriptions and Latreille's later criticisms (1802 and 1804, *Hist. nat. Crust. Ins.* **3** : 429, 436, 439 and 456 ; **10** : 142 ; 1807, *Gen. Crust. Ins.* **3** : 296) show that Fabricius applied the names to quite different concepts than did Latreille. It seems clear that Fabricius was either not aware of Latreille's previous use (or at least not of his application) of these names when he was writing his *Supplementum*, or if he did know how they were applied by Latreille, he chose to ignore Latreille's intent and to propose them as new names with applications more pleasing to himself. In either case, he proposed homonyms and put species into his own preoccupied genera and not into Latreille's genera of the same names, which were proposed without included species.

Fabricius is well known as a person who picked up unpublished (or published) names of other authors and published them as his own new genera, often with a changed application. Classic examples of this habit are the Hymenoptera names pirated from Jurine. The handful of previously published generic names in Crustacea which Fabricius indicated as new in his *Supplementum* may be other examples.

Since the *Supplementum* was published only two years after Latreille's *Précis*, one could assume that Fabricius was ignorant of it, while writing the *Supplementum*, especially since most of its new genera are not in the *Supplementum*. The seven that were adopted or pirated there may have been learned of through correspondence with Latreille or may have been last minute changes in the manuscript, after the printed *Précis* was received by Fabricius. The fact that scores of other names were ignored by Fabricius indicates his ignorance of the body of Latreille's contribution, and the fact that Latreille showed knowledge in his *Précis* (pages 71-72) of the name *Eudomychus* which Fabricius was expected to propose in his *Supplementum* (actually as *Endomychus*) indicates simultaneous work and some exchange of manuscript names between the two authors. The fact that Fabricius proposed new names for Latreille's *Gasteruption* and *Psammochares* (*Foenus* and *Pompilus* respectively) is another instance of his ignorance or disregard of the published *Précis*.

With the above understanding of the Latreille names that appear in Fabricius' *Supplementum*, it seems that *Geotrupes* Fabricius, 1798, was proposed as a new genus, but is a homonym of *Geotrupes* Latreille, 1796. The first species included in *Geotrupes* Latreille (not Fabricius) are *stercorarius* and *vernalis* Latreille, 1802. (*Hist. nat. Crust. Ins.* **3** : 145.) In 1810, Latreille (*Consid. générales sur l'Ordre nat.* : 428) lists "*Scarabaeus stercorarius* Fab." as an example ("*type* ") of *Geotrupes*. Many authors accept this list as designating type species. Those who do not would accept Curtis' designation (1829, *Brit. Ent.*, Coleoptera **1** : 266) of "*Scarabaeus stercorarius* Linn." as the type, unless it could be shown that there is some earlier acceptable selection. The species *stercorarius* is the traditional type species of *Geotrupes* and its acceptance as such preserves the traditional application of the name.

If Potts' conclusions (1948, *Pan-Pac. Ent.* **24** : 23-26) are accepted, the type species must be some species other than *stercorarius*. Potts states that it would then be *dispar*, which is placed in a different genus (*Ceratophyus*) of GEOTRUPINI than *stercorarius*. With *dispar* as the type species, the application of the name *Geotrupes* would need to be shifted, except under those schools of thought which consider usage or authority dominant factors in scientific nomenclature. Potts, however, seems to have dismissed too easily the possibility that Fabricius described his *Geotrupes* as a new genus. His conclusion in this regard was influenced in part by the absence of a " genotype " description for *Geotrupes* such as Fabricius commonly gave when describing new genera. (See Malaise, 1938, *Ent. Tidskr.* **59** : 99-106 and Blackwelder, 1946, *Bull. Brooklyn ent. Soc.* **41** : 72-78.) An examination of the entire volume, however, shows that Fabricius regularly omitted " genotype " descriptions in his *Supplementum*. Potts did not mention the kinds of evidence we bring out in the discussion above.

Latreille himself and authors after his time (except Potts) reached the same general conclusion as we have. If, however, the conclusion reached by Potts could be supported by indisputable bibliographic facts, technical honesty would require adjustment of the nomenclature to fit the facts. Potts has recently requested (1951, *Bull. zool. Nomencl.* **6** : 49) the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature for protection against the necessity of acting according to his published conclusions and the Commission has accepted the case and invited comment from interested parties before a decision is reached. (See *Science* **114** : 673-674, 1951.) We therefore send this paper to the Commission, in the hopes of convincing it that, in this case at least, the commonly accepted rules of nomenclature should be allowed to operate.

ON MR. G. H. E. HOPKINS' PROPOSAL RELATING TO THE STATUS TO BE ACCORDED TO SPELLED-OUT LETTERS OR NUMERALS WHEN USED AS NAMES

By JOSHUA L. BAILY, Jr.
(*San Diego, California, U.S.A.*)

(Commission's reference Z.N.(S.)371)

(Enclosure to letter dated 24th October 1951)

While in complete sympathy with Mr. G. H. E. Hopkins' petition (1950, *Bull. zool. Nomencl.* **6** : 52-53), that single letters or numerals should not be available as trivial names, and that when used in conjunction with an available name they are not to be construed as constituting part of that name, I cannot help but feel that the enforcement of the last provision of this application is not very practical. For instance, Dall published in 1919 the name *Tritonalia interfossa beta* in the *Proc. biol. Soc. Wash.* **32** : 250, a reference which I have been unable to consult personally, but in which he apparently made no statement as to his intention as to whether the name should be understood as designating one term of a series or as describing a characteristic of the form so named. Since no other form was described at the same time with the name of any other letter of the Greek alphabet, the inference is that this form was not to be considered as one term of an infinite series, and that the name would be good under the proposed new ruling. But later, in 1921, in *Bull. U.S. nat. Mus.* **112** : 108, pl. 13 f. 9, he published the name *Tritonalia interfossa alpha* which would seem to indicate that after all the names were to be interpreted as designations of a term in a series, and therefore not available. Under a strict application of the proposed new ruling the name *beta* would be the legitimate name for the form to which it was applied from 1919 to 1921 but that after that date it would lose its legitimacy because another name which was illegitimate had been applied to another form. It is my feeling that the only practical point at which a boundary can be drawn between conditions under which a name of this sort is legitimate and under which it is not, is whether or not the name has been spelled out phonetically. I would consider as legitimate any instance in which these names have been spelled out phonetically. This seems to me the only practical method of procedure.

While not exactly indispensable to the consideration of this question, a comment on the numerals *one*, *two*, *three* and *four* and the lesser used numerals *tasi*, *lua*, *tolu* and *fa* are not exactly parallel. These last named numerals have not been Latinized, and are spelled phonetically in Latin. In fact, *one* and *four* are not even phonetic in English. I can see no reason why any word in any language should not be available as the basis of a scientific name, provided that it has been Latinized. The numerals which are last quoted above are vernacular names only, and of course have no standing. But the letters of the Greek alphabet, while they are vernacular names also, are a great deal more. They are Latinized words of Greek

origin. The fact that they are spelled out in Latin letters indicates that. These names occur in Latin literature, and it would be futile to maintain that they are not Latin.

The name *Tritonalia* is not the correct term for the genus to which these varieties belong. It is properly called *Ocenebra*, but this matter need not be considered in making the required ruling.

Also Dall did not publish a description of the form which he called *alpha* but only the name and figure. The latter is sufficient to indicate his intention. The names *alpha* and *beta* did not originate with Dall, but with Carpenter, but they are only manuscript names which were never published by Carpenter, and consequently his intention can receive no consideration at all in determining what Dall intended.

ON MR. G. H. E. HOPKINS' PROPOSAL FOR THE INSERTION IN THE "RÈGLES" OF A PROVISION RELATING TO THE SPELLING OUT AS NAMES OF SERIAL LETTERS APPLIED TO SUBSPECIES

By K. H. L. KEY

(*Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation, Division of Entomology, Canberra, Australia*)

(Commission's reference Z.N.(S.)371)

(Letter dated 4th January 1952)

I have just seen the proposal by G. H. E. Hopkins published under the Commission's reference Z.N.(S.)371 in the *Bulletin of Zoological Nomenclature* vol. 6, p. 52. I would like to say that I agree with Mr. Hopkins to the extent that I am opposed to attributing (to use his example) the names *alpha*, *beta*, etc. to Piaget ; but I differ from him in that I consider no restriction should be placed upon the freedom of Kellogg to propose such serial names, either for the species indicated by the respective Greek letters by Piaget, or for any other species, provided that those names are attributed to Kellogg as of the date of his publication.

I am expressing this view because Mr. Hopkins' proposal is one for an amendment of the Code, and is not restricted to the group of species with which he is immediately concerned. You will realise that my attitude is in accord with the one I took previously (see my letter of 11th July, 1951) in regard to the emendation of the original orthography of names. I consider that restrictions on the freedom of authors to form names as they see fit should be kept to the minimum necessary for the efficient functioning of a system of nomenclature.

SUPPORT FOR THE PROPOSALS RELATING TO THE GENERIC NAMES "LIPEURUS," "COLPOCEPHALUM," "GYROPUS" AND "EUREUM," ALL OF NITSCH, 1818 (CLASS INSECTA, ORDER MALLOPHAGA)

By ERNST MAYR

(*The American Museum of Natural History, New York*)

(Commission's references Z.N.(S.)343 and 532)

(Extract from a letter dated 31st October 1951)

As an ornithologist, I strongly endorse all of Mr. Hopkins' proposals (1951, *Bull. zool. Nomencl.* **6** : 54-64) to stabilise the nomenclature of the Mallophaga.

SUPPORT FOR PROFESSOR MUNRO FOX'S PROPOSAL FOR THE SUPPRESSION OF THE GENERIC NAME "MONOCULUS" LINNAEUS, 1758

By R. Ph. DOLLFUS

(*Laboratoire d'Helminthologie Coloniale et de Parasitologie Comparée, Museum National d'Histoire Naturelle, Paris*)

(Commission's reference Z.N.(S.)377)

(Note dated 25th June 1951)

Je suis pour la suppression de *Monoculus* Linnaeus, 1758.

SUPPORT FOR DR. H. LEMCHE'S PROPOSAL RELATING TO THE NAME "SCAPHANDER" MONTFORT, 1810 (CLASS GASTROPODA)

By R. Ph. DOLLFUS

(*Laboratoire d'Helminthologie Coloniale et de Parasitologie Comparée, Museum National d'Histoire Naturelle, Paris*)

(Commission's reference Z.N.(S.)378)

(Note dated 25th June 1951)

Je suis pour la validation de *Scaphander* Montfort, 1810 (espèce type : *Bulla lignaria* Linnaeus, 1758).

SUPPORT FOR DR. HENNING LEMCHE'S PROPOSALS RELATING TO THE GENERIC NAME "SCAPHANDER" MONTFORT, 1810 (CLASS GASTROPODA)

By N. H. LUDBROOK, M.A., Ph.D.

(*Canberra, Australia*)

(Commission's reference Z.N.(S.)378)

(Enclosure to letter dated 22nd March 1952)

I wish to give support to Dr. Henning Lemche's application (*Bull. zool. Nomencl.* **2**(2) : 35–36, April 20th 1951) to the Commission to have the generic name *Scaphander* (Class Gastropoda) validated as from Montfort, 1810, for use in its accustomed sense, i.e. with *Bulla lignaria* Linnaeus, 1758, as type species. Dr. Lemche has included in his application the essential details of a proposal which it was my intention to submit to the Commission and has clearly and adequately stated the position.

SUPPORT FOR DR. W. J. ARKELL'S PROPOSALS RELATING TO THE TRIVIAL NAMES "VIRGULA" DESHAYES, 1831 (AS PUBLISHED IN THE COMBINATION "GRYPHAEA VIRGULA") AND "ASPER" LAMARCK, 1819 (AS PUBLISHED IN THE COMBINATION "PECTEN ASPER") (CLASS PELECYPODA)

By R. Ph. DOLLFUS

(*Laboratoire d'Helminthologie Coloniale et de Parasitologie Comparée, Museum National d'Histoire Naturelle, Paris*)

(Commission's references Z.N.(S.)407 ("virgula") and Z.N.(S.)408 ("asper")

(Note dated 25th June 1951)

Je suis pour la conservation de *Gryphaea virgula* Deshayes, 1831, et *Pecten asper* Lamarck, 1819.

SUPPORT FOR THE PROPOSALS SUBMITTED BY DR. W. J. ARKELL FOR THE SUPPRESSION UNDER THE PLENARY POWERS OF CERTAIN NAMES FOR GENERA OF AMMONITES (CLASS CEPHALOPODA)

By R. CASEY

(*Geological Survey and Museum, London*)

(Commission's reference Z.N.(S.)423)

(Extract from a letter dated 5th October 1951)

The disturbance in current ammonite nomenclature which would result from the resuscitation of the early generic names *Planulites* and *Orbulites* Lamarck, 1801, *Pelagus* and *Ellipsolithes* Montfort, 1808, and *Globites* de Haan, 1825, is considerable and I consider there is a clear case for suppression of these names under the plenary powers, as advocated by Dr. Arkell.

SUPPORT FOR DR. W. J. ARKELL'S PROPOSALS IN REGARD TO THE NAMES "AMMONITES" BRUGUIÈRE, 1789, AND "ARIETITES" WAAGEN, 1869 (CLASS CEPHALOPODA, ORDER AMMONOIDEA)

By R. Ph. DOLLFUS

(*Laboratoire d'Helminthologie Coloniale et de Parasitologie Comparée, Museum National d'Histoire Naturelle, Paris*)

(Commission's reference Z.N.(S.)425)

(Note dated 25th June 1951)

Je suis pour la suppression *d'Ammonites* Bruguière, 1789, et pour l'adoption d'*Arietites* Waagen, 1869.

SUPPORT FOR DR. W. J. ARKELL'S PROPOSAL FOR THE SUPPRESSION OF THE NAME "AMMONITES" BRUGUIÈRE, 1789 (CLASS CEPHALOPODA, ORDER AMMONOIDEA) UNDER THE PLENARY POWERS

By R. CASEY

(*Geological Survey and Museum, London*)

(Commission's reference Z.N.(S.)425)

(Extract from a letter dated 5th October 1951)

In view of the additional evidence advanced by Dr. Donovan in the case of the nominal genus *Ammonites* Bruguière, 1789 (Donovan, D. T., 1951, *Bull, zool. Nomencl.* **2**(11) : 335), I wish to be associated with those workers who have given their support to Dr. Arkell's application for the suppression of the generic name *Ammonites* Bruguière, 1789.

UNTERDRÜCKUNG EINIGER NAMEN FÜR FOSSILE TIERE IN LINNAEUS, 1768, UND IN SPÄTEREN AUSGABEN LINNAEUS' SCHER WERKE

By R. RICHTER

(*Natur-Museeum Senckenberg, Frankfurt a. Main, Germany*)

(Commission's reference Z.N.(S.)418)

(Letter dated 30th May 1951)

Der Vorschlag, die Namen zu unterdrücken ist zweckmässig.

PROPOSED USE OF THE PLENARY POWERS TO SUPPRESS CERTAIN NAMES PUBLISHED FOR FOSSIL ANIMALS BY LINNAEUS IN 1768 AND BY OTHER AUTHORS IN LATER EDITIONS OF THE WORKS OF LINNAEUS

By LESLIE BAIRSTOW, M.A.

(*Department of Geology, British Museum (Natural History), London*)

(Commission's reference Z.N.(S.)418)

(Letter dated 23rd August 1951)

I strongly support the proposal in regard to the above matter submitted to the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature by the late Mr. R. Winckworth (1951, *Bull. zool. Nomencl.* **2** : 88), for I have had in mind for eighteen years the desirability of the suppression of the names for fossil animals introduced in the *Systema Naturae, Regnum Lapideum,* by Linnaeus, 1768, and Gmelin, 1793.

SUPPORT FOR THE PROPOSAL RELATING TO THE TRIVIAL NAME " SIRTALIS " LINNAEUS, 1758 (AS PUBLISHED IN THE COMBINATION " COLUBER SIRTALIS ") (CLASS REPTILIA) SUBMITTED BY DR. KARL P. SCHMIDT AND MR. ROGER CONANT

By R. Ph. DOLLFUS

(*Laboratoire d'Helminthologie Coloniale et de Parasitologie Comparée, Museum National d'Histoire Naturelle, Paris*)

(Commission's reference Z.N.(S.)433)

(Note dated 25th June 1951)

Je suis pour l'adoption de conserver *sirtalis* Linnaeus, 1758.

SUPPORT FOR THE SCHMIDT/CONANT PROPOSAL RELATING TO THE TRIVIAL NAME " SIRTALIS " LINNAEUS, 1758 (AS PUBLISHED IN THE COMBINATION " COLUBER SIRTALIS ") (CLASS REPTILIA)

By ROBERT MERTENS

(*Senckenbergische Naturforschende Gesellschaft, Natur-Museum und Forschungs-Institut, Frankfurt a. Main, Germany*)

(Commission's reference Z.N.(S.)433)

(Letter dated 25th August 1951)

Dem Vorschlag von Karl Patterson Schmidt und Roger Conant, den Namen *sirtalis* Linnaeus für die gewöhnliche Gartersnake beizubehalten, stimme ich zu.

SUPPORT FOR THE PROPOSALS FOR THE USE OF THE PLENARY POWERS IN CONNECTION WITH THE TRIVIAL NAME " SIRTALIS " LINNAEUS, 1758 (AS PUBLISHED IN THE COMBINATION " COLUBER SIRTALIS ") (CLASS REPTILIA, ORDER SQUAMATA) SUBMITTED BY DR. KARL P. SCHMIDT AND MR. ROGER CONANT

By A. J. BARTON

(*Highland Park Zoological Gardens, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, U.S.A.*)

(Commission's reference Z.N.(S.)433)

(Letter dated 4th January 1952)

With reference to the nomenclatural problem indexed by the Commission as Z.N.(S.)433, I have examined the proposals tendered by Schmidt and Conant, and by Dowling.

While from a purely systematic standpoint, it would seem preferable to assign the name *ordinatus* to the " Eastern Garter Snake ", and *sauritus* to the " Ribbon Snake ", I feel that Schmidt and Conant's principle of " continuity " must become a greater force in the resolution of nomenclatural problems. Indeed, it would seem essential that this rule be given precedence if systematics are to be saved from the utter confusion which the Rules were originally formulated to circumvent.

In any tabulation of opinions which the Commission may be pleased to make in guiding it to a decision in this matter, I request that I be listed as favoring the name *Thamnophis sirtalis* auctorum, sensu Stejneger and Barbour, 1943 ; and the name *Thamnophis sauritus* auctorum, sensu Stejneger and Barbour, 1943. I further request that this specific opinion be generalised as a vote in favor of the continuity principle in future problems of a similar nature which may be referred to the Commission for an official *Opinion*.

SUPPORT FOR DR. HERNDON G. DOWLING'S PROPOSAL FOR THE USE OF THE PLENARY POWERS TO SUPPRESS THE TRIVIAL NAME "SIRTALIS" LINNAEUS, 1758 (AS PUBLISHED IN THE COMBINATION "COLUBER SIRTALIS") (CLASS REPTILIA, ORDER SQUAMATA)

By JAY M. SAVAGE

(*Stanford University, Natural History Museum, Stanford, California, U.S.A.*)

(Commission's reference Z.N.(S.)433)

(Letter dated 10th January 1952)

I have just finished reading the discussion of the *Thamnophis sirtalis-ordinatus* nomenclatural problem as presented by Dr. Herndon G. Dowling in the latest part of *Copeia*. It is understood that the arguments presented by Dowling are to be considered by the Commission in conjunction with the proposal of Schmidt and Conant.

At this time I should like to put myself on record as favouring the solution of this nomenclatural tangle suggested by Dr. Dowling. Under the circumstances outlined by him in his discussion, the application of *T. ordinatus* to the common gartersnake of North America and the retention of *T. sauritus* for the ribbon snake seem most acceptable. The only bar to such an interpretation would lie in the reference which has caused previous workers to refrain from suggestion that a Linnean name might be set aside by the Commission. The conclusions of Schmidt and Conant on this subject are subject to the disadvantage of advocating that a name be associated with a species for which it was never intended and also necessitate the setting aside of a Linnean name.

Dr. Dowling's interpretation is further considered to be the most acceptable solution since it will remove any doubt as to the application of *T. sirtalis* to an American snake, all references being thus associated with the synonymy of either *T. ordinatus* or *T. sauritus*. His conclusions, it is believed, will result in less confusion than if those of Schmidt and Conant were adopted.

SUPPORT FOR THE PROPOSAL RELATING TO THE TRIVIAL NAME "SIRTALIS" LINNAEUS, 1758 (AS PUBLISHED IN THE COMBINATION "COLUBER SIRTALIS") (CLASS REPTILIA) SUBMITTED BY DR. HERNDON G. DOWLING

By HOBART M. SMITH

(*University of Illinois, Department of Zoology, Urbana, Illinois, U.S.A.*)

(Commission's reference Z.N.(S.)433)

(Letter dated 23rd January 1952)

I should like to record with you my strong approval of the alternative procedure suggested by Dr. H. G. Dowling, modifying the proposals by Schmidt and Conant (1951, *Bull. zool. Nomencl.*, **2**(3) : 67–69) relative to *Coluber sirtalis* Linnaeus.

Schmidt and Conant's proposal would require association of the specific trivial name *sirtalis* with a species that the type certainly did not represent. Names have often been suppressed in the past by the Commission for reasons contributing to clarity and stability of nomenclature but, rarely, if ever, has approval been granted for certainly erroneous application of a name to a species. It may perhaps be questioned whether the plenary powers of the Commission encompass decisions on matters so obviously zoological as this. In any event, there has been in the past a commendable reluctance by the Commission to deal with any, except strictly parliamentary (as opposed to zoological), problems. Only in most extraordinary circumstances would an exception to this policy be justified. The present case does not thus qualify. The species involved are not commonly dealt with outside of systematic herpetological literature, despite the fact that they are among the most common and widely distributed species of snakes of the country. Therefore, on grounds of precedent for action requested of the Commission, Dowling's proposal is preferable.

If *sirtalis* is retained as requested by Schmidt and Conant, admittedly in the course of a few years, workers will become correctly confident of the intent of contemporary usage. Never, however, as pointed out by Dowling, can the intent of usage of that name in the interim period (between 1948 and that future time when *sirtalis* shall have become of universally accepted application) be certain in all cases. The longer the name *sirtalis* is retained, whether approved by the Commission or not, the longer this interim period of confusion will be. Obviously, the mere existence of the name *sirtalis* in future literature will contribute to confusion for a number of years to come. Immediate and " Official " (i.e., by action of the Commission) discard of the name will greatly reduce the length of period of confusion. Thus, on grounds of clarity, as well as of precedent, Dowling's proposal is preferable.

The many expressions of opinion favouring Schmidt and Conant's proposal should not, of course, bear significant weight in guiding the Commission's decision, since Dowling's alternative had not then received attention. My own preference, formerly stated to be for retention of Klauber's solution, is here rescinded, and a vote is recorded instead for Dowling's proposal.

RENEWED SUPPORT FOR THE PROPOSAL RELATING TO THE TRIVIAL NAME " SIRTALIS " LINNAEUS, 1758 (AS PUBLISHED IN THE COMBINATION " COLUBER SIRTALIS ") (CLASS REPTILIA) SUBMITTED BY DR. KARL P. SCHMIDT AND MR. ROGER CONANT

COLEMAN J. GOIN

(*University of Florida, College of Arts and Sciences, Department of Biology, Gainesville, Florida, U.S.A.*)

(Commission's reference Z.N.(S.)433)

(Letter dated 11th March 1952)

Since I affirmed my position in favor of the petition submitted to the Commission by Karl P. Schmidt and Roger Conant (Commission's reference Z.N.(S.)433, Mr. Herndon Dowling has made a subsequent proposal to suppress the trivial name *sirtalis*.

As the Garter Snake is perhaps the best known snake in the eastern United States and as it has been known as *sirtalis* for over a hundred years, I think it would be exceedingly unwise to change its name. I am therefore writing to re-iterate my stand in favor of the proposal by Schmidt and Conant. I am not in favor of the proposal by Dowling.

ON THE ALTERNATIVE PROPOSALS SUBMITTED TO THE INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION ON ZOOLOGICAL NOMENCLATURE IN REGARD TO THE TRIVIAL NAME TO BE USED FOR COMMON GARTER SNAKE OF THE EASTERN UNITED STATES

By ARNOLD B. GRUBMAN

(*University of Florida, School of Arts and Sciences, Department of Biology, Gainesville, Florida, U.S.A.*)

(Commission's reference Z.N.(S.)433)

(Letter dated 12th March 1952)

Of the two solutions proposed regarding the nomenclature of the common garter snake and the ribbonsnake, I prefer that of Dowling to that of Schmidt and Conant.

If there were a possibility of using *sirtalis* for the common garter snake and *sauritus* for the ribbonsnake from now on, I would think that would be most desirable. I am not sure however whether this could be accomplished within the structure of the Code.

Both of these snakes are well known in semi-popular literature and the names have been used as I have indicated. Either of the two formal proposals is going to result in continued confusion for a while.

ON THE SCOPE OF THE PLENARY POWERS BESTOWED UPON THE INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION ON ZOOLOGICAL NOMENCLATURE BY THE INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF ZOOLOGY, WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO THE PROBLEM PRESENTED BY THE TRIVIAL NAME "SIRTALIS" LINNAEUS, 1758 (AS PUBLISHED IN THE COMBINATION "COLUBER SIRTALIS") (CLASS REPTILIA)

By FRANCIS HEMMING, C.M.G., C.B.E.

(*Secretary to the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature*)

(Commission's reference Z.N.(S.)433)

In the discussion which has taken place regarding the relative advantages of the proposals submitted (1) by Dr. Karl P. Schmidt and Mr. Roger Conant, and (2) by Dr. Herndon G. Dowling, for stabilising the trivial names to be applied to the Garter Snake and the Ribbon Snake respectively, reference has been made both by Professor Hobart M. Smith (in his letter of 23rd January 1952) and by Professor Arnold G. Grubman (in his letter of 12th March 1952) to doubts which they entertain as to whether the scope of the plenary powers granted to the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature by the International Congress of Zoology is such as would permit the Commission, if it so desired, to approve the solution of the foregoing problem recommended by Dr. Schmidt and Mr. Conant.

2. In order that the issue of the settlement to be reached in regard to the trivial names to be used for the two snakes referred to above may not be obscured by misunderstandings regarding the scope of the Commission's plenary powers, it will be convenient here to note what is, in fact, the scope of those powers. For this purpose we may examine first the Resolution adopted at Monaco in 1913 under which those powers were originally conferred upon the Commission (*see* 1943, *Ops. Decls. int. Comm. zool. Nomencl.* **1** : 37–40) by the Ninth International Congress of Zoology, and, second, the decisions taken in Paris in 1948 by the Thirteenth International Congress of Zoology, when it incorporated the plenary powers provisions into the *Règles* (*see* 1950, *Bull. zool. Nomencl.* **4** : 55–56 (Paris Session, 3rd Meeting, Conclusion 7), 291–293 (Paris Session, 11th Meeting, Conclusion 10).

3. The Plenary Powers Resolution of 1913 were granted to the Commission for application " to any given case where, in its [the Commission's] judgment, the strict application of the *Règles* will clearly result in greater confusion than uniformity . . . " Thus, under this Resolution, the Commission was authorised to use the plenary powers then conferred upon it only when, in its judgment, certain conditions had clearly been complied with but that no limitation of any kind was placed upon the Commission as to the manner in which it should use its plenary powers or as to the Articles of the *Règles* which it might use those plenary powers to suspend in any case where it was satisfied that the overriding condition that " the strict application of the *Règles* would clearly lead to greater confusion than uniformity " had been complied with.

4. At its Third Meeting during its Paris Session the Commission drew up certain recommendations for changes in the text of the Plenary Powers Resolution but these recommendations were concerned only with mechanics and other procedural matters arising in connection with the use of the Plenary Powers (*loc. cit.* **4** : 55–56) and proposed no changes in the portion of the Resolution which actually conferred the Plenary Powers upon the Commission. At the same meeting, the Commission recommended that the Plenary Powers Resolution, amended as proposed, should be incorporated into the *Règles* (*loc. cit.* **4** : 56, Point (2)). These recommendations were later endorsed by the Section on Nomenclature (1950, *Bull. zool. Nomencl.* **5** : 5–13). At its Eleventh Meeting during the same Session the Commission agreed upon certain recommendations for the incorporation into the *Règles* of an Article prescribing the functions of the Commission ; the recommendations so adopted included a recommendation that the proposed new Article should prescribe that " the Commission possesses plenary powers to suspend, in whole or in part, any Article of the *Règles*, other than the present Article [i.e. other than the Article defining the functions of the Commission], as applied to the names in any book or to any individual name, where, in its opinion . . . " (here follow the rules in regard to the use by the Commission of its plenary powers as agreed upon by the Ninth International Congress of Zoology at Monaco in 1913, as amended by the Paris Congress). This recommendation was endorsed by the Section on Nomenclature (1950, *Bull. zool. Nomencl.* **5** : 91–93). All the recommendations referred to above were later approved, with other recommendations, by the Thirteenth International Congress of Zoology in Plenary Session (1950, *Bull. zool. Nomencl.* **5** : 131).

5. We see therefore that the International Congress of Zoology has now explicitly authorised the International Commission to use its Plenary Powers to suspend the operation, in whole or in part, of any of the Articles of the *Règles* (other than the Article defining the functions of the Commission itself) in relation to any individual name, where, in its opinion, the strict application of the *Règles* would clearly result in greater confusion than uniformity.

6. The foregoing review of the scope of the Commission's plenary powers shows that it would be within the competence of the Commission to use its plenary powers for example, to suspend, in part, the provisions relating to type specimens in any individual case where it considered this necessary, in order to prevent greater confusion than uniformity from arising (as the result of the strict application of the normal provisions of the *Règles*). Subject to its being satisfied on this question, the Commission could therefore, in the individual case on which this problem has been raised, use its plenary powers to direct that any published description or figure or any individual specimen which it might so select, should represent, or, as the case might be, should be for the purposes of zoological nomenclature, the lectotype of, and therefore the sole standard for the interpretation of, the nominal species *Coluber sirtalis* Linnaeus, 1758.

7. So far therefore as its powers are concerned, the International Commission, when it comes to consider the applications submitted to it by Dr. Karl P. Schmidt, jointly with Mr. Roger Conant, and Dr. Herndon G. Dowling, will be free to approve or to reject, as it may think proper, either of the proposals so submitted.

ZU DEN VORSCHLÄGEN VON H. M. MUIR-WOOD & C. J. STUBBLEFIELD: "PROPOSED USE OF THE PLENARY POWERS . . ." IN BULL. ZOOL. NOMENCL., VOL. 6, PART 1, P. 7

By HERTA SCHMIDT

(*Museum und Forschungs-Institut Senckenberg, Frankfurt a. Main, Germany*)

(Commission's reference Z.N.(S.)461)

(Note dated 1st November 1951)

Soweit die Vorschläge Brachiopoden betreffen, stimme ich ihnen zu.

SUPPORT FOR THE PROPOSED USE OF THE PLENARY POWERS TO VALIDATE THE TRIVIAL NAMES OF CERTAIN SPECIES OF CARBONIFEROUS CORALS AND BRACHIOPODS ORIGINALLY PUBLISHED BY W. MARTIN, AS RECOMMENDED BY DR. HELEN MUIR-WOOD AND DR. C. J. STUBBLEFIELD

By STANLEY SMITH

(*University of Bristol, Department of Geology, Bristol, England*)

(Commission's reference Z.N.(S.)461)

(Letter dated 24th November 1951)

I wish to support the application made to the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature by Dr. H. Muir-Wood and Dr. C. J. Stubblefield to validate the trivial names of certain Carboniferous corals and brachiopods published by William Martin, 1809, in *Petrificata Derbiensia* specified by them in *Bulletin Zoological Nomenclature*, vol. **6**, Pt. 1, September, 1951.

The names in question have been in constant use for a very long time, and to discard them now would give rise to serious difficulties and confusion.

SUPPORT FOR THE PROPOSALS SUBMITTED BY DR. HELEN MUIR-WOOD AND DR. C. J. STUBBLEFIELD FOR THE USING OF THE PLENARY POWERS TO VALIDATE CERTAIN TRIVIAL NAMES PUBLISHED BY MARTIN (W.) FOR CARBONIFEROUS LIMESTONE FOSSILS OF DERBYSHIRE

By J. SHIRLEY, D.Sc.

(*University of Durham, King's College, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, England*)

(Commission's reference Z.N.(S.)461)

(Letter dated 10th January 1952)

The dropping of Martin's work on the Carboniferous Limestone Fossils of Derbyshire (1809) for the purpose of nomenclature, comes as a shock to those engaged on the palaeontology and stratigraphy of this system and I would like urgently to support the efforts of Drs. Stubblefield and Muir-Wood to reinstate some of Martin's names. In my opinion his names were strictly binominal since the prefix Conchyolithus meant nothing more than that the shell was fossil and the above workers' quotation from Martin (1951, *Bull. zool. Nomencl.* 6 : 7) drives

this point home. It is true that the descriptions are inadequate for modern purposes, but many of the illustrations are very good for their time, and there is little difficulty in recognising almost all the species among collections of specimens from Derbyshire.

I would particularly like to support the use of the plenary powers of the Commission (Z.N.(S.)461) in the matter of the species there listed. As an example of their frequency in the literature, I have taken the *Quarterly Journal of the Geological Society* back to 1940 and listed the articles in which they are mentioned as definite identification. Out of seven papers on the Lower Carboniferous, the species are mentioned, generally frequently, in the number of papers given :—

duplicatus	2	*floriformis*	4	*resupinatus*	4
semireticulatus	4	*productus*	1	*crumena*	1
pugnus	3	*trigonalis*	5	*subconicus*	0
striatus	3				

Only one species receives no mention in these papers. This is for only one journal. I think it would be true to say that it is almost impossible to pick up any general work on the stratigraphy-palaeontology of the British Lower Carboniferous which does not mention as definite identifications some of the species of Martin, and you can imagine the confusion which would arise if Martin's species names were dropped.

SUPPORT FOR THE PROPOSALS RELATING TO THE GENERIC NAMES "LYSIOSQUILLA" DANA, 1852, AND "ODONTODACTYLUS" BIGELOW, 1893 (CLASS CRUSTACEA, ORDER STOMATOPODA) SUBMITTED BY DR. L. B. HOLTHUIS

By R. P. BIGELOW

(*Woods Hole, Massachusetts, U.S.A.*)

(Commission's references Z.N.(S.)474 and 475)

(Letter dated 2nd August 1951)

May I ask you to present to the International Commission my endorsement of the proposals of L. B. Holthuis (1951, *Bull. zool. Nomencl.* **2** : 83-84 and 86-87) that the Commission use their plenary powers to validate the following generic names :—

Lysiosquilla Dana, 1852.

Odontodoactylus Bigelow, 1893.

It certainly is true that the ruthless application of the *Règles* in these cases would cause endless confusion, and it would not serve any useful purpose.

ZUSTIMMUNG ZU DEM ANTRAG VON DR. LEIF STØRMER: (1) DER GATTUNGS-NAME "LIMULUS" MÜLLER, 1785 MIT DEM GENOTYPUS "MONOCULUS POLYPHEMUS" LINNAEUS, 1758, SOLL UNTER SUSPENSION DER REGELN AUF DIE OFFIZIELLE LISTE GESETZT WERDEN (2) DIE GATTUNGS-NAMEN "XIPHOSURA" GRONOVIUS, 1764, UND "XIPHOSURA" BRÜNNICH, 1771, SOLLEN UNTER SUSPENSION DER REGELN UNTERDRÜCKT WERDEN

By RUDOLF RICHTER

(*Geologisch-Palaeontologisches Institut, Frankfurt a. Main, Germany*)

(Commission's reference Z.N.(S.)506)

(Note dated 18th October 1951)

Begründung :

Der Internationale Zoologen-Kongress hat die Möglichkeit zur Suspension der Regeln mit der ausdrücklichen Absicht geschaffen, Namen von so allgemeiner Gebraüchlichkeit wie *Limulus* su schützen.

Eine andere Entscheidung würde nicht die Zustimmung der Zoologen und Paläontologen finden.

Ausserdem würde die Autorität der Internationalen Regeln und der Internationalen Kommission nicht befestigt werden, wenn der Name *Limulus*, nachdem er 1928 auf die Offizielle Liste gesetzt worden war, nicht den Schutz der Kommission finden würde.

Ich verweise auf den Antrag (den ich sur gleichen zeit an die Kommission einreiche), dass sämtliche Namen, die auf die Offizielle Liste gesetzt worden sind, unter Suspension der Regeln endgültig geschützt werden. (*Bull. zool. Nomencl.* **6** : 184–185.)

ON THE PROBLEMS RAISED BY THE NAMES "LIMULUS" (CLASS MEROSTOMATA) AND "ASTACUS" (CLASS CRUSTACEA)

By JOSHUA J. BAILY, Jr.

(*San Diego, California, U.S.A.*)

(Commission's references Z.N.(S.)506 and 544)

(Enclosure to a letter dated 24th October 1951)

Application Z.N.(S.)506 is concerned with a name (*Limulus*) which has been on the *Official List* for more than two decades. Its reconsideration at this time would therefore weaken the value of the *Official List* regardless of the nature of the action taken. The *Official List* is the greatest instrument for the stabilization of nomenclature that has yet been devised and any action likely to weaken it is to be deprecated.

Attention should here be called to application Z.N.(S.) 544 relating to the name *Astacus*, which is essentially parallel. In each case a name has long been on the *Official List ;* in each case an older name has been subsequently discovered which would have been available if discovered earlier ; in each case the petitioner fears the possibility of action which might jeopardize the status of the established name. In the latter case, however, the proponent of the application has not asked for the confirmation of the established name, but merely for the suppression of the older name which threatens it.

It would be quite in order for the Commission to issue an *Opinion* to the effect that *Limulus* and *Astacus* are closed cases which cannot be reopened on any ground, but to reconsider these cases even for the purpose of confirming earlier actions would be objectionable, as such a course would establish a precedent for reopening any case in which a neglected name unexpectedly comes to light. It is true that I have asked the Commission several times to reconsider cases which they presumably considered closed, but I have never done so in the case of a name already on the *Official List*. Had these names been placed on the *Official List* I would have accepted that decision as irrevocable.

Other things being equal, the earlier published of two synonyms is entitled to priority, but in this case other things are not equal. *Limulus* is on the *Official List ; Xiphosura* is not, and the only way in which parity for the two names can be achieved is for the Commission to place *Xiphosura* on the *Official List* with the same type. To me this action is unthinkable, but in order to preclude it absolutely, I would suggest either one (or even both) of the two following courses : The first of these would be to place *Xiphosura* on the *List of Rejected Names*. This action has been requested in the application and I am strongly in favor of it. The other course would be to issue a ruling that after a species has been recorded on the *Official List of Generic Names in Zoology* as the type of a genus placed on that list it will thereby become automatically ineligible for designation as type of a generic name later placed on the list.

I am not a student of the group to which *Limulus* belongs, but this case is one that goes to the heart of all zoological nomenclature, and any student in any field of systematic zoology will feel the effect of the decision in this case. Therefore I am now requesting that the Commission take the latter course outlined above, and declare that *Limulus* can never be removed from the *Official List*, and that the species *Monoculus polyphemus* can never be legally designated as the type species of any other genus.

OBJECTION TO THE REJECTION OF DISTRIBUTION ON MICROFILM AS A PERMISSIBLE METHOD OF PUBLISHING ZOOLOGICAL NAMES

By JOSHUA L. BAILY, Jr.
(*San Diego, California, U.S.A.*)

(Commission's reference Z.N.(S.)528)

(Enclosure to letter dated 24th October 1951)

It should be noted that the only reasons given for considering the question at all are those offered by the opposition. I believe that if the proponents of this petition had considered the consequences of favorable action as has the opposition, their support of it would not be so enthusiastic.

The disadvantages of suppressing microfilm in this way might not be felt for some years, but eventually they will be bound to appear. Just as the art of calligraphy became extinct in the middle ages as the result of the invention of printing from type, so is the art of printing in this way likely to be superseded within the next generation by the superior invention of microfilm reproduction.

There are three great advantages of microfilm ; first, it can be reproduced more rapidly—the long delay between the submission of a manuscript and its appearance in final form can be eliminated. Second, it can be produced much more cheaply ; an advantage rather to be augmented in the future than otherwise, owing to increasing costs of material, labor, and overhead in the printing business. Finally, it constitutes a more durable record. When a film shows signs of wearing out, it can be renewed at once by contact printing without the risk of typographical errors that always occur when type has to be reset.

The only objection to microfilm that I can imagine is that it is not so convenient, but all advances are inconvenient until we get used to them. The engineer brought up on the steam locomotive thinks the modern diesel to be inconvenient, and doubtless his predecessor thought the steam locomotive less convenient than the horse. Technological improvements in industry can not be held back indefinitely by legislation. I therefore request you to deny this application.

MIKROKOPIE SOLL NICHT ALS VERÖFFENTLICHUNG IM SINNE VON ARTIKEL 25 DER REGELN ANGESEHEN WERDEN

By ROBERT MERTENS
(*Natur-Museum und Forschungs-Institut Senckenberg, Frankfurt a. Main, Germany*)

(Commission's reference Z.N.(S.)528)

(Note dated 24th October 1951)

Die Senckenbergische Naturforschende Gesellschaft hat bereits beschlossen, Mikrokopie nicht als Veröffentlichung anzuerkennen. Ich übersende gleichzeitig "Natur und Volk" 81, Heft 9, pag. 232-234, 1951, wo diese Entschliessung veröffentlicht ist.

Hierbei verweise ich auf die gleichlautende Beschliessung der Paläontologischen Gesellschaft vom 8. September 1950. Die Veröffentlichung in der Paläontologischen Zeitschrift 24, 3/4, pag. 101-103, 1951, füge ich als Sonderdruck hier bei.

ZU DEN VORSCHLÄGEN VON H. M. MUIR-WOOD & C. J. STUBBLEFIELD: "PROPOSED ADDITION TO THE 'OFFICIAL LIST' . . ." IN "BULL. ZOOL. NOMENCL.," VOL. 6, PART 1, P. 8

By HERTA SCHMIDT

(*Natur-Museum und Forschungs-Institut Senckenberg, Frankfurt a. Main, Germany*)

(Commission's reference Z.N.(S.)534)

(Note dated 1st November 1951)

Soweit die Vorschläge Brachiopoden betreffen, stimme ich ihnen zu mit Ausnahme von (B) (*e*), *Spirifera acuta* Davidson, 1863, betreffend.

Die vorgeschlagene Regelung, *Spirifera acuta* Davidson, 1863, als ältesten verfügbaren Namen auf die *Offizielle Liste* zu setzen, erscheint mir aus mehreren Gründen ungangbar:

(1) Es steht fest, dass Fleming, 1828, als erster den Namen *acutus* binärnomenklatorisch angewandt hat. Fleming's Priorität wird nicht dadurch hinfällig, dass er unter diesem Namen 2 verschiedene Formen zusammengefasst hat, die heute als verschiedene Arten betrachtet werden. Bei der Wahl des Lectotyps soll die *intentio autoris* beachtet werden. Fleming hat aber seine Absicht klar ausgesprochen, indem er die Martin'sche Bezeichnung *acutus* aufgriffe und gleichzeitig auf Martin's Veröffentlichung hinwies.

(2) Wenn man—entgegen der *intentio autoris*—das Original von *Spirifer minimum* Sowerby, 1821, zum Lectotypus von *Sp. acutus* Fleming, 1828, bestimmte, so würde zwar *Sp. acutus* Fleming durch Synonymie hinfällig, aber der Name *Spirifera acuta* Davidson, 1863, würde trotzdem nicht verfügbar. *Spirifera* Sowerby, 1835, ist eine blosse Emendation von *Spirifer* Sowerby, 1818. *Spirifera acuta* Davidson, 1863, würde somit zum Homonym von *Spirifer acutus* Fleming *sensu* Muir-Wood (=*Spirifer minimum* Sowerby). Für die von Davidson (und späteren Autoren) als *acuta* beschriebene Art müsste dann ein neuer Name eingeführt werden.

Wenn es aus bestimmten Gründen erwünscht wäre, dass *Spirifera acuta* Davidson, 1863, Prioritätsrecht erhält und ein von Davidson unter diesem Namen veröffentlichtes Stück zum Lectotypus bestimmt wird, so könnte dies meines Erachtens nicht durch die "Regeln" sondern nur durch Suspension erreicht werden.

SUPPORT FOR PROPOSED USE OF THE PLENARY POWERS TO SUPPRESS THE TRIVIAL NAME "CAESIUS" CLOQUET, 1818 (AS PUBLISHED IN THE BINOMINAL COMBINATION "COLUBER CAESIUS") (CLASS REPTILIA, ORDER SQUAMATA)

By ROBERT MERTENS

(*Natur-Museum und Forschungs-Institut, Frankfurt a. Main, Germany*)

(Commission's reference Z.N.(S.)531)

(Note dated 24th October 1951)

Ich schliesse mich den Ausführungen des herrn A. Loveridge an und befürworte seinen Antrag um Unterdrückung des Artnamens *caesius* Cloquet. Auch stimme ich seinen Vorschlägen um Aufnahme der von ihm erwähnten Artnamen *irregularis* und *semivariegata* in die *Official List of Specific Trivial Names in Zoology* und des Gattungsnamens *Philothamnus* in die *Official List of Generic Names in Zoology* bei.

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Applications for submission to the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature : Intending applicants are particularly asked to submit their applications in the form indicated in the Notice printed on the back wrapper (cover) of Part 6 of the present volume of the *Bulletin*.

Printed in Great Britain by METCHIM AND SON LTD., Westminster, London